



# Equity Council Agenda

Zoom Meeting Time: June 16, 2021 3:30 - 4:30 PM

## Welcomes & Introductions

- Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) Secretary Jones welcomed the Council members
- Secretary Jones announced that Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos will be officially serving as Equity Council co-lead

## COVID-19 Updates – Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) Team

- As was requested at the previous Equity Council meeting, the RIDOH data team presented additional data about the vaccination rates of children and youth ages 12 to 18 disaggregated by geography, race, and ethnicity.
- Additional data can be found at <https://bit.ly/3vERGIF>.

## Medicaid Home-Based and Community Services Funding – Medicaid Program Director Ben Shaffer

- Medicaid is a State-Federal partnership that provides health insurance coverage for adults, families and older Americans.
- The rate of individuals receiving Medicaid has increased by 12% over the last twelve months.
- As a result of the American Rescue Plan (ARP), over \$100 million is available in federal funding for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services.
- Medicaid coverage for doula services and community health workers has been incorporated into the proposed FY 22 budget.

## Community Feedback: What are you hearing from the community? What should the State know?

- A community member requested additional data about homebound seniors who have been vaccinated, including data disaggregated by race and ethnicity. RIDOH will the Council member with the requested information.

## Next Steps

- The RIDOH data team will continue to work on compiling disaggregated data for the vaccination rates among children in different school districts and present this data at a future meeting.

## Close

- Closing remarks given by EOHHS Secretary Womazetta Jones

